

[1st August 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

Governments, Bar Council of India and other legal luminaries in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) when the proposed amendments are likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) (a) to (e) The Law Commission of India in their 154th Report on the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 has recommended, *inter alia*, insertion of a new sub-section, 1(A), in section 164 to read as follows:

“Every Investigating Officer shall send to the nearest Magistrate all material witnesses during the course of investigation and the Magistrate on oath record their statements, if such Magistrate is empowered to take cognizance of the case on police report, he shall keep such statements alongwith the FIR received by him and await the further police report under section 173. If he is not empowered to take such cognizance, he shall send the statements thus recorded on oath to the Magistrate empowered to take cognizance of the case.”

It is not feasible to indicate a specific time-frame for a decision on the above as the Government has to take a view on the recommendations of the Law Commission in the 154th Report in entirety, after consulting State Governments and other concerned organisations.

Complaints regarding police excesses in Delhi

1104. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a large number of complaints regarding police excess in Delhi during the last three years;

(b) if so, the number of such complaints; and

(c) the details of steps taken to reduce the police excess?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Delhi Police have during the period 1998 to 30th June, 2001 received 1386 complaints regarding police excesses out of which 69 complaints were substantiated after inquiry.

(c) The steps taken by Delhi Police in this regard include: (i) deterrent action in all cases where police officials are found involved in malpractices, misbehaviour, etc.; (ii) the training syllabi both for initial training and refresher courses have been designed to inculcate, amongst the police trainees, the sense of community service and respect for law and human rights; (iii) frequent briefing by senior officers during Sampark Sabhas about the need to behave politely and courteously with the members of the public; (iv) provision of the facility to ring up telephone number 3319922 to enable the members of the public to speedily lodge their complaints against harassment by police officials; and (v) provision of the facility of P.O. Box No. 171 to enable members of public to send their complaints against any criminal or corrupt behaviour of police personnel.

Separate Task Force for Border Management

1105. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to make separate Task Force for Indo-Bangla, Indo-China and Indo-Pak border to improve the existing Border Management Programme;

(b) if so, the steps taken in that regard; and

(c) the details of steps taken to reduce tension in the border areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal to make a separate Task Force before the Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.